UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 02-7784

HARTZEL RAY FOSTER,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

HOWARD PAINTER, Warden,

Respondent - Appellee.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia, at Elkins. Robert Earl Maxwell, Senior District Judge. (CA-99-48-2)

Submitted: January 16, 2003

Decided: January 27, 2003

Before WILLIAMS, KING, and GREGORY, Circuit Judges.

Affirmed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Hartzel Ray Foster, Appellant Pro Se. Silas Bent Taylor, Deputy Attorney General, Dawn Ellen Warfield, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WEST VIRGINIA, Charleston, West Virginia, for Appellee.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit. See Local Rule 36(c).

PER CURIAM:

Hartzel Ray Foster appeals the district court's order denying relief on his petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). We have reviewed the record and find no reversible error. Accordingly, we affirm on the reasoning of the district court. See Foster v. Painter, No. CA-99-48-2 (N.D.W. Va. Nov. 7, 2002). We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

<u>AFFIRMED</u>